

ENIL Personal Assistance Template

Country: **Belgium**

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A) FLANDERS

Background of the legislation	In 1987 some Flemish pioneers with a disability founded Independent Living Flanders (ILV). ILV raises awareness for people, associations and policymakers of the abilities of individuals with disabilities and the need for personal assistance. The constant struggle is worthwhile. In 1997 for the first time in Flanders, an experiment started with the Personal assistance budget (PAB). 15 Flemish people with disabilities participated. The experiment was extended by six months, then another, and reached 50 persons with disabilities. There was a growing political interest in this new phenomenon of people with disabilities organizing their own assistance. In 2000, the Flemish Parliament approved the decree for personal assistance budgets (PAB). The first PAB decision of the Flemish government was taken on 15 December 2000.
Type of legislation	Flemish regional legislation. All people less than 65 years of age with a disability have a ‘theoretical’ right to it. In reality the number of ‘budget holders’ is limited by the available amount of money that is allocated yearly for PAB. This amount usually grows every year, but the number of people applying for PAB grows faster. Currently there are little over 2000 budget holders, but about 6000 people are on the PAB waiting list.
Administrator of PA services	VAPH (Flemish Agency for People with Disability)
Funder of service	Flemish Government Ministry for Welfare
Disabilities covered	Anyone with a file at the VAPH. No type of disability is excluded.
Possible amount of hours per day/week of PA	The outcome of the assessment is not a number of hours but a budget category, a yearly budget between € 9.344 and € 43.609.
Assessment of needs: tool and how often	A Multi-disciplinary team (social worker & medical experts) use a certain classification instrument on the basis of an interview with the person applying for a PAB. The assessment is when the person asks, or when

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	the person becomes 18. Whenever there is a significant change in your support need (due to evolving disability, other health conditions or changing family/living situation) you can get a reassessment. Also the administration (VAPH) can ask for a reassessment, but maximum once a calendar year. In reality they seldom do. Sometimes a budget holder can get a financial inspection on the use of the budget.
Hourly rate funded	The budget holder decides on the hourly rate of the PA. The legal minimum wage needs to be respected
Age	Not older than 65 to apply for the first time
Number of users in the region	2.112 PAB users (nov 2012)

B) WALLONIA

Background of the legislation	The need for individualization and self-determination in all areas, a changing vision appeared in the 90s. Also IL activists! So «officially », in 1999, the University of Mons realized a theoretical study "personal budgets and the quality of life" for 14 PWD , 5 types of disabilities. In 2000 AWIPH subsidized another study with 19 disabilities situations based on the lifestyle, the life project and need of assistance based on a number of hours rather than a disability category and use of existing general services. Actual model. In 2003 the Minister of Social Affairs organized a forum on BAP. So met the first beneficiaries who obtained the experiment that finally began on 05/2005 (after regional elections) with 7 PWD. It grows till 26 persons till officialized by a decree on 14/05/2009.
Type of legislation	14/05/09 "BAP" decree of Wallonia government
Administrator of PA services	AWIPH (Wallonia Agency for People with Disability) <u>PA services providers</u> Public and private services, municipalities, individuals (interim), AWIPH services and institutions. (we cannot be direct employer)
Funder of service	Wallonia Government Ministry for Welfare

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	<p><u>Individually</u> The regional administration for PWD manages payment directly with PA services chosen by the PWD.</p>
Disabilities covered	All kinds of disabilities
Possible amount of hours per day/week of PA	<p>It depends on the need expressed by PWD. But limited to the amount specified in the decree based on the type of request: support for the day / days and nights / only week / week and weekend ..., the evaluation made by the agent (stability of entourage !), the priority of the year, the available budget and the number of urgent situations.</p> <p>Then establishment of a "personalized plan" that mentions your choice of services (for what) and the number of hours for each of them (based on week estimation but annually managed).</p>
Assessment of needs: tool and how often	<p>Use of an evaluation rubric (SMAF) to determinate level of autonomy, the existing resources and their stability and so priority access to BAP.</p> <p>Depending on the needs expressed and the budget allowed, establishment of the individual plan benefits. It is reviewed annually or on request</p>
Hourly rate funded	8 euros
Age	People - 65 with a high level of loss of autonomy (Or recorded AWIPH before 65 and if linked with initial disability not the age)
Total of registered users in the region	250

C) BRUSSEL

Background of the legislation	
Type of legislation	
Administrator of PA services	

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Funder of service	
Disabilities covered	All kinds of disabilities
Possible amount of hours per day/week of PA	
Assessment of needs: tool and how often	
Hourly rate funded	
Age	
Total of registered users in the region	